Abstract

Understanding a language, especially with regard to gender has recently become the focus of attention of linguists. In her article titled ‘Language and Woman's Place’, Robin Lakoff, a prominent linguist, was the first one who introduced the idea of differences between men’s and women’s languages. Children’s literature is a wide area of any nation’s literature. As children and teenagers are important groups of the society, writers and poets talk to their audience with their special language. Thus, the aim of the present research was to probe into the issue of language and gender to depict a more precise picture of children’s literature linguistics. Using a descriptive-analytical approach and based on Lakoff’s theory of language and gender, the present research studied poetic and fiction works of Afsaneh Sha’banejad, Shokouh Ghasemnia, Asadollah Sha’bani, and Nasser Keshavarz to indicate differences between men’s and women’s languages in books written for children. The result of extracting each of these variables separately based on the gender from the above works showed that poets and writers have used interrogative sentences and prayer words in accordance with Lakoff’s theory, while their use of imperative sentences, taboo words, color words, moderators and intensifiers does not match this theory.

**Key words**: gender, language, Lakoff, children’s literature, Afsaneh Sha’banejad, Shokouh Ghasemnia, Asadollah Sha’bani, Nasser Keshavarz
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Department of Language and Persian Literature
The Thesis Submitted for degree of Master of Science
(In the field of Language and Persian Literature)

Studying Language and Gender in Children`s Literature Based on Robin Lakoff`s Theory (Case Study on Poetic and Prose Works of Afsaneh Sha`bannejad, Shokouh Ghasemnia, Asadollah Sha`bani, Naser Keshavarz)

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January 2018